



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 98,009-B1)

In the Application of: Rodgers et al.)
Serial No.: 09/658,315)
Filed: September 8, 2000)
For: Method of Promoting Erythropoiesis)

Examiner: A. Gupta

Art Unit: 1653

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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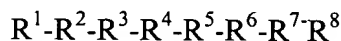
RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION OF MARCH 14, 2002

The applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002.

AMENDMENTSIn the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows: The marked version of amended claims is provided in Appendix A.

B1
1.(Amended) A method for augmenting erythropoiesis comprising contacting erythroid progenitor cells with an amount effective to augment erythropoiesis of at least one active agent comprising a sequence of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R¹-R⁸ in the sequence of general formula I



wherein R¹ is selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc, Ala, Me²Gly, Pro, Bet,

Glu(NH₂), Gly, Asp(NH₂) and Suc;